

## POPULATION : MAINE

## COMPOSITION AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION

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The first population bulletin for Maine gave the number of inhabitants by counties and minor civil divisions, the decennial increase and the density of population, and the proportions urban and rural. The present bulletin deals with the composition and characteristics of the population. The two bulletins cover all the principal topics of the population census except occupations and ownership of homes.

**Description of the tables.**—The greater part of this second bulletin consists of five general tables, which present statistics of color, nativity, parentage, sex, citizenship, illiteracy, school attendance, and dwellings and families, as follows: Table I for the state and counties; Table II for the two cities of more than 25,000 inhabitants; Table III for cities of 10,000 to 25,000; Table IV for places of 2,500 to 10,000; and Table V for wards of Portland, the one city of more than 50,000 inhabitants.

A series of summary tables (numbered 1 to 14) reproduces from the general tables the more important state and city totals, and presents also certain additional data relative to state of birth, age, and marital condition.

On account of the wide differences in characteristics among the different classes of the population, the statistics on each subject are shown according to race, and for the whites according to nativity and parentage. Classification according to nativity and parentage is scarcely necessary for the other races, since nearly all negroes and Indians are native born of native parentage, and nearly all Chinese and Japanese either foreign born or of foreign parentage.

The white population is divided into four groups: (1) Native, native parentage—that is, having both parents born in the United States; (2) native, foreign parentage—having both parents born abroad; (3) native, mixed parentage—having one parent native and the other foreign born; (4) foreign born. As the second and third classes do not differ greatly in characteristics, they are combined in some of the tables; in a few cases all three native white classes are combined.

Since marked differences often exist between urban and rural communities with respect to the composition and characteristics of the population, it is desirable that the two classes be distinguished in presenting census data. The Bureau of the Census has undertaken to do this by classifying as urban the population of all incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more. In New England, however, where many villages of con-

siderable size are not separately incorporated, it was deemed best to classify also towns of 2,500 or more inhabitants as urban, although this classification is not very satisfactory because such towns generally include more or less population that is essentially rural.

The census inquiry as to school attendance was merely as to whether the person enumerated had attended any kind of school at any time between September 1, 1909, and the date of enumeration, April 15, 1910.

The Census Bureau classifies as illiterate any person 10 years of age or over who is unable to write, regardless of ability to read.

**Color and nativity (Table 1).**—Of the total population of Maine, 494,907, or 66.7 per cent, are native whites of native parentage; 134,955, or 18.2 per cent, are native whites of foreign or mixed parentage; 110,133, or 14.8 per cent, are foreign-born whites; and 1,363, or 0.2 per cent, are negroes. The corresponding percentages in 1900 were 71, 15.3, 13.4, and 0.2, respectively, the proportion of native whites of native parentage having decreased during the decade. In 12 of the 16 counties less than 15 per cent of the population is foreign-born white; the highest percentage for this element, 23.9, is for Androscoggin County. Approximately one-third (32.3 per cent) of the population of Aroostook County is native white of foreign or mixed parentage, and in 14 counties the percentage for this class exceeds that for foreign-born whites. (See maps on a following page.)

Of the urban population, 55.1 per cent are native whites of native parentage; of the rural, 78.9 per cent. The corresponding proportions for native whites of foreign or mixed parentage are 23.8 and 12.2 per cent, respectively. The percentage of foreign-born whites is 20.8 in the urban population and 8.5 in the rural.

**Sex (Table 2).**—In the total population of the state there are 377,052 males and 365,319 females, or 103.2 males to 100 females. In 1900 the ratio was 102.2 to 100. Among native whites the ratio is 101.8 to 100; among foreign-born whites, 111.1 to 100. In the urban population there are 98.4 males to 100 females, and in the rural, 108.6.

**State of birth (Tables 3 and 4).**—Of the native population—that is, population born in the United States—91.6 per cent were born in Maine and 8.4 per cent outside the state; of the native white population, 8.4 per cent were born outside the state, and of the native negro, 28.8 per cent. Persons born outside the state constitute a larger proportion of the native population in urban than in rural communities.

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**Foreign nationalities** (Table 5).—Of the foreign-born white population of Maine, persons born in Canada represent 68.9 per cent (those of French parentage, 31.8, and all others, 37.1); Ireland, 7.2; England, 5.1; Russia, 4.3; Italy, 3.1; Scotland, 2.2; Sweden, 2; all other countries, 7.3 per cent. Of the total white stock of foreign origin, which includes persons born abroad and also natives having one or both parents born abroad, Canada contributed 67.8 per cent (French stock, 30.8, and all others, 37); Ireland, 10.2; England, 5.1; Russia, 2.9; Scotland, 2.1; Italy, 1.9; Sweden, 1.8; Germany, 1.3 per cent.

**Voting and militia ages** (Table 6).—The total number of males 21 years of age and over is 235,727, representing 31.8 per cent of the population. Of these, 67.8 per cent are native whites of native parentage, 11.3 per cent native whites of foreign or mixed parentage, 20.6 per cent foreign-born whites, and 0.2 per cent negroes. Of the 48,464 foreign-born white males of voting age, 14,994, or 30.9 per cent, are naturalized. Males of militia age—18 to 44—number 151,325.

**Age** (Tables 7, 8, and 12).—Of the total population, 9.7 per cent are under 5 years of age, 17.7 per cent from 5 to 14 years, inclusive, 17.1 per cent from 15 to 24, 28.2 per cent from 25 to 44, and 27.1 per cent 45 years of age and over. The foreign-born white population comprises comparatively few children, only 8.1 per cent of this class being under 15 years of age, while 73.9 per cent are 25 years of age and over. Of the native whites of foreign or mixed parentage, 32.1 per cent are 25 and over, and of the native whites of native parentage, 57.6 per cent.

As compared with rural population, the urban shows a slightly larger proportion of persons in the prime of life, 29.8 per cent of urban and 26.5 per cent of rural being in the age groups 25 to 44 years.

**School attendance** (Table 9).—The total number of persons of school age—that is, from 6 to 20 years, inclusive—is 195,197, of whom 132,082, or 67.7 per cent, attended school. In addition to these, 6,393 persons under 6 and 2,356 of 21 and over attended school. For boys from 6 to 20 years, inclusive, the percentage attending school was 67.1; for girls, 68.2. For children from 6 to 14 years, inclusive, the percentage attending school was 89.2. The percentage for children of this age among native whites of native parentage was 90.3; among native whites of foreign or mixed parentage, 88.4; among foreign-born whites, 81; and for the 183 negro children aged 6 to 14, 90.7. (See Table I.) There is little difference between urban population and rural as regards school attendance for children of this age, but of those from 15 to 20 years, 38.4 per cent in rural communities, as against 32.4 per cent in urban, were reported as attending school.

**Illiteracy** (Table 10).—There are 24,554 illiterates in the state, representing 4.1 per cent of the total population 10 years of age and over, as compared

with 5.1 per cent in 1900. The percentage of illiteracy is 13.7 among foreign-born whites, 2 among native whites, and 8 among negroes.

For the foreign-born whites the percentage of illiteracy is somewhat higher in urban communities than in rural, but for each of the other elements the percentage of illiteracy is higher in rural than in urban communities.

For persons from 10 to 20 years of age, inclusive, whose literacy depends largely upon present school facilities and school attendance, the percentage of illiteracy (2) is comparatively low. (See Table I.)

**Marital condition** (Tables 11 and 13).—In the population 15 years of age and over, 34.6 per cent of the males are single and 27.4 per cent of the females. The percentage married is 57.8 for males and 59.2 for females, and the percentage widowed 6.4 and 12.3, respectively. The percentages of those reported as divorced, 1 and 0.9, respectively, are believed to be too small, because of the probability that many divorced persons class themselves as single or widowed.

That the percentage single is so much smaller for women than for men is due largely to the fact that they marry younger. Thus 9.5 per cent of the females from 15 to 19 years of age are married, as compared with 1.1 per cent of the males, and 46.7 per cent of the females from 20 to 24 years are married, as compared with 22 per cent of the males. In the next age group, 25 to 34 years, the difference is not so great, the percentage being 73.8 for females and 62.4 for males, while in the age group 35 to 44 the difference practically disappears. That there is a larger proportion of widows than of widowers may indicate that men more often remarry than women, but, since husbands are generally older than their wives, the marriage relationship is more often broken by death of the husband than by death of the wife.

For the main elements of the population the percentages of married persons among those 15 years of age and over are as follows: Foreign-born whites, 62 for males and 66.6 for females; native whites of native parentage, 59.4 and 59.3; native whites of foreign or mixed parentage, 43.9 and 48.9; negroes, 44.9 and 43.8.

These percentages by no means indicate the relative tendency of the several classes as regards marriage. To determine that, the comparison should be made by age periods, since the proportion married in any class is determined largely by the proportion who have reached the marrying age. Similarly, the proportion widowed depends largely on the proportion past middle life. The percentage married is slightly higher for males and decidedly higher for females in rural than in urban communities.

**Dwellings and families**.—The total number of dwellings in Maine is 159,437, and the total number of families 177,960, there being 111.6 families to each 100 dwellings. (See Table I.) The average number of persons per dwelling is 4.7, and the average number per family, 4.2.



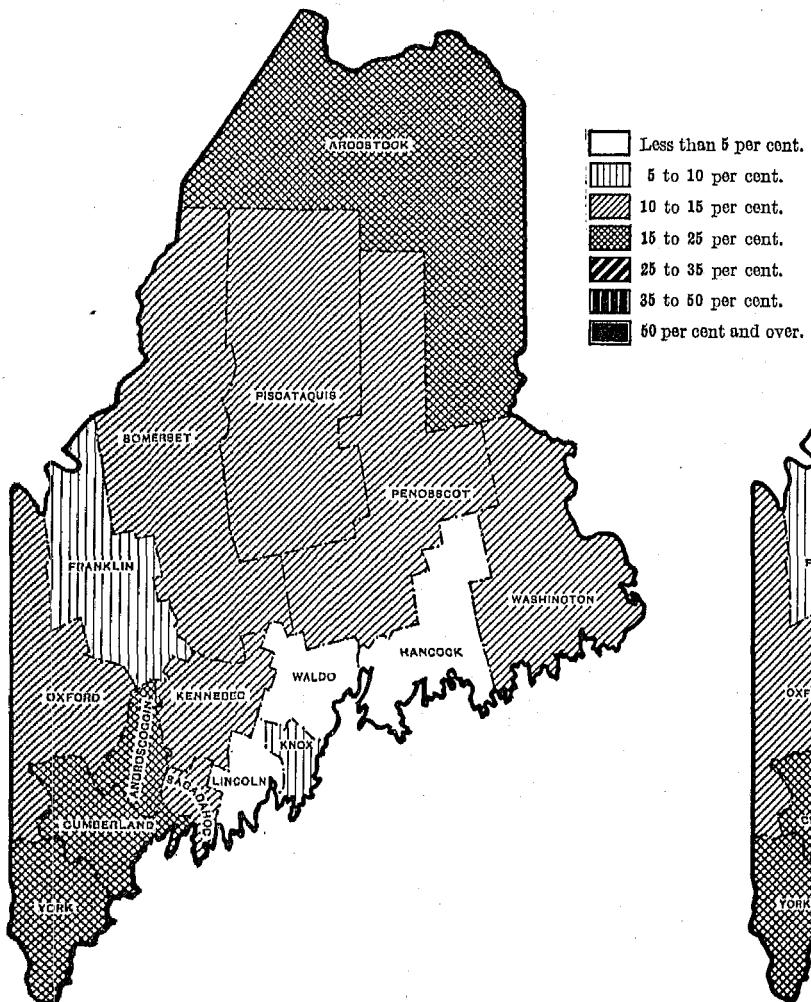






PROPORTION OF FOREIGN-BORN WHITE AND NATIVE WHITE OF FOREIGN OR MIXED PARENTAGE.

PER CENT OF FOREIGN-BORN WHITE IN TOTAL POPULATION: 1910.



PER CENT OF NATIVE WHITE OF FOREIGN OR MIXED PARENTAGE IN TOTAL POPULATION: 1910.

